

kept in his house as before. The plants at the Centennial Exhibition attained a height of about 20 feet, and were, when he last saw them, still flourishing, though rather too slim; those given to his friend were cut down on account of being too spindling, and are reported as being sturdy; those in his own hands grew out of doors as usual last summer, but, instead of being taken in on the approach of winter, they were laid down and covered with leaves and earth, in order to test their ability to resist in that way our winter climate. Upon taking them up this spring every one of them was found to be quite dead.

His object in raising these plants was to learn whether any chance existed of acclimating them here or in the swamps of New Jersey, and his experiments result in the conviction that there is no reason to hope for such a result; though several hard frosts late in the fall, with the thermometer as low as 25° F., had on several occasions produced no injury beyond the shrinking of leaves, the first attempt to winter them out of doors with all precautions, and after some maturity had been attained, ended, as has been said, in the death of his specimens.

Having read that Anstralia produces divers species of *Eucalyptus*, among them some that grow high up the hills, he wrote, in 1875, to Baron von Müller, the accomplished manager of the Botanical Gardens at Melbourne, for information as to the probable ability of any such species or varieties to withstand our winters, and also as to the power of these trees to banish such insects as the Jersey mosquito. He replied that the hill species were less valuable and important than the *globulus*, that some of them would be likely to survive here, and that he should not expect them to avail against troublesome insects.

As a green-house plant he found the *Eucalyptus globulus* in its early years decidedly attractive. Its foliage is of a peculiar color (hence its common name of blue gum), and the leaves are covered with a sort of bloom from the exudation of its aromatic resin. Its pungent and spicy or camphory odor was to him decidedly agreeable; that this odor is supposed to be health-giving, or destructive of malaria, another common name of the *Eucalyptus*, viz., fever-tree, sufficiently attests. There is not the slightest difficulty in growing the plants from seeds in an ordinary sand-bed in a green-house.

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APRIL 24.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-six members present.

Papers entitled "On the Evolution and Homologies of the Incisors of the Horse," by John A. Ryder, and "Synopsis of the

Fishes of Lake Nicaragua," by Theodore Gill, M.D., and J. F. Bransford, M.D., U. S. N., were presented for publication.

The Mineralogical Section reported its organization, and the election of the following officers:—

*Director*—Theo. D. Rand.

*Vice-Director*—Wm. H. Dougherty.

*Conservator*—Jos. Willcox.

*Secretary*—H. C. Lewis.

*Treasurer*—Wm. S. Vaux.

*Recorder*—H. C. Lewis.

Jos. G. Rosengarten, Edgar F. Smith, Ph.D., J. Marshall Stoddart, Jr., and Gertrude K. Peirce were elected members.

The following papers were ordered to be published:—